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For Zion's Herald.

THE PENALTY OF SIN.

BY E. B. FLETCHER.

Mr. EDITOR.—I have not, until now, found time to reply to Bro. Davies' second article. I had supposed that my explanations in the *Herald* of Sept. 5, would satisfy him that he was in error, in his article of Aug. 17. But he has written us another article in support of his first. As my review of his article called out his second, he should have tried to show my criticism unsound. But by avoiding the use of my name, and putting sentences in double commas, as quotations, some of which are from my article, and some are not, neither my sentiments, he confuses the discussion, does injustice to his readers, and to my article. Notice the following: "But for sin, say some, there would have been no physical death, therefore physical death was the penalty of sin." This is not mine. And the second member of this sentence, probably, no one believes. He could, of course, beat down a man of straw. Physical death was not, to Adam, the penalty of sin. But it was a penalty, a result, or consequence, of sin, and not a result of Christ's redemption. Gen. iii. 17-19, teaches us that the return of Adam's body to the dust was for the violation of the prohibition in Gen. ii. 17, for eating the forbidden tree. Hence this was included in the death there threatened. In both texts it is a threatening, not a blessing in Christ. Death is a separation from that to which we are dead. To know from what Adam's sin made him liable to be separated, from what it did separate him and his posterity, and from what sin does now, and will finally separate the wicked, and what will be their condition in these deaths, must be known by comparing such texts as Gen. ii. 17; iii. 17-19; Rom. v. 12-21; Eph. ii. 1; Rom. vi. 23; 1 Cor. xv. 21, 22; John iii. 36; Matt. xxv. 41-46.

Adam's sin made him liable to moral and physical death, and also to an endless separation from all good. These three deaths are, each of them, a curse, not gospel blessings; and all of them consequent upon his eating of the forbidden tree. But their second probation, through Christ, prevented the separation of his soul and body, and their ruin that day. But it put them in a very different situation from their first state. And hence their posterity inherit from the first parents, moral, and physical, and mental imperfections, and the mortality of their bodies. And our physical defects, or mortality, no more came upon us by the "sentence provided," than did our moral and mental defects. But as these are from Adam's sin, and to us unavoidable, Christ stands between us and all harm from the penalty of the moral law, from our birth to the time of our moral accountability. And as the death of the body is by Adam's sin, so its resurrection from this is by Christ's redemption, without our agency. But a conformity of our resurrection bodies to the glorified body of Christ, is obtained by our having, in probation, a conformity of the spiritual soul to his moral likeness; 1 John iii. 2, 3; Phil. iii. 17-21. But to suit Bro. Davies' doctrine, the Bible should have said, For since by Christ came death, by Christ came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Christ all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. Christ the first-fruits; but Christ was not the first-fruits gathered into death, though his body was the first-fruits gathered from physical death—*in the same instant* state.

It is true, that had no redemption been provided, the two offenders must that day, that moment they have sinned, have passed into eternity unawed, and their bodies have gone back to the dust, "As the body without the spirit is dead." And then the curse upon Eve, upon the earth, and the subjection of Adam to privations and hard work, would not have existed. But these were means by which they were separated from certain blessings enjoyed before the fall. But physical death was not a gospel blessing, but a punishment for acquiring the knowledge of good and evil by eating of the forbidden tree. For this sin God "drove out the man, lest he put forth his hand and take also of the tree of life, and live forever." He was driven from the means of preserving the immortality of his body; Gen. iii. 22-24. And what follows is a punishment. Gospel grace might turn it to their spiritual good. But Bro. Davies' arguments prove Universalism. Put together the following, from his first article, 2. "The penalty was executed in the day of transgression." 3. "All that Christ came to save us from was embraced in the threatened penalty." From these and other considerations we conclude that spiritual death is the penalty of sin, in Adam and his posterity. These propositions give us this doctrine, spiritual death is the penalty of sin. This penalty was executed on Adam, in the day he sinned. The penalty immediately followed the offense. It was threatened penalty being moral death, it was executed on the day of the offense, and hence in this life. And as Christ came to save us from nothing but spiritual death as the penalty of sin, and that is executed in this life, he did not come to save us from any other death in eternity, neither from physical death, by raising our bodies from the dust; neither from "the curse of this world," or "the prince of the power of the air," or any other evils, except "spiritual death." And, in his posterity." As all the wicked are "dead in trespasses and sins," in spiritual death, was Adam on the day he sinned; the threatened penalty of sin is executed upon all sinners, in this life. It follows that the threatened penalty of sin being executed in this life, it is not in eternity. This is plain. And to make the Universalism of his arguments the more clear, the brother, in his second article, denies that the process of threatened death on Adam was stayed before its full completion, so as to prevent the full and final penalty of sin on him being executed in that day. In my review of his first article, I say, "The whole man did die—that day. His soul was separated from spiritual life, and his body was separated from immortality and other advantages. But the use of the body was continued to man in its diseased condition, under those disabilities, for a second probation state." And why? Because by the intervention of the atonement, the execution of the full and final penalty of sin was not that day executed, either upon the spiritual soul or upon the body. The process of death commenced on both, but on both its processes stayed before its completion." The doctrine of this paragraph he denies, it being inconsistent with his theory. Having said, "The penalty was executed in the day of transgression," he quotes from the paragraph the sentence, "Because by the intervention of the atonement, the full and final penalty was not executed, either upon the spiritual soul or upon the body, the process of death was stayed on both before its completion." The doctrine of this sentence the brother denies, and says of it, "This is not only begging the question, but is making confusion worse confounded." So that, according to Bro. Davies, the penalty of sin is spiritual death, and it was fully executed on Adam in this life, as the final penalty of sin. And so "in Adam's posterity." As all wicked men are, in this life, "dead in trespasses and sins, and spiritual death is the penalty of sin."

But how is it, then, that the wicked, now in mortal death, are threatened with another death beyond this, which has not yet come upon them, and which they may escape, and not, in that sense, die? Ezek. xxxii. 11, 14, 15. How can a man be under "the full and final penalty" of sin, and yet be in a state of probation?

But these Universalist arguments are given only to sustain his peculiar notion of the threatened death in Gen. ii. 17, and iii. 19. As in his first article he directly contradicts all that he has said as proof that the penalty of sin is moral death, and that it was executed

on Adam in the day he sinned. His words are, "If there had been no atonement provided whereby man would have granted a second probation, the transgression would have rendered man a candidate for hell, soul and body." Then, of course, "the full and final penalty of sin was not that day executed, either upon the spiritual soul, or upon the body." As neither went to hell that day, "the process of death, on both, was stayed—before its completion." According to the brother himself, Adam was in spiritual death the day he sinned, yet he did not go to hell that day; Gen. ii. 17, threatened a death beyond this, which Adam escaped. This must be so. The great importance of this subject requires that we notice some more of the brother's argument in his second article, by which he thinks that he proves, as in Christ all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. He says, 2. All that Christ died to save us was from the original penalty, but he does not save even his followers or sinless childhood from the death of the body, therefore the death of the body is not part of the original penalty." If this means, Christ does not save us from dying, we are not designed that he should, as physical death is not part of the threatened penalty, but that he saves us from the original penalty. His new reform proposes to reach only the venders' wretched victims. If public charity can reach them, and alleviate the sorrows which his traffic has occasioned, he will not object, not he.

But, seriously, does not the Mayor know that intoxicating drinks are the chief cause of the degradation to which he refers? Does he not know that intemperance has reduced this lower class to beggary, so that they are compelled to huddle together like pigs in a sty? All other causes put together do not create so much disease, and cause so many people to "live in filth" and occupy "ill-ventilated apartments" and even dwell in "damp and dark cellars," as intemperance. Every man knows this. The Mayor knows it; and every citizen of Boston knows it. How much more consistent, then, would it be to close the grog shops, and stop the illegal traffic in strong drink, or, at least, to make the noble attempt! It is not more philosophical to ignore the cause, than to attempt to doctor the effect? In the view of the Mayor's proposition, it is useless to cry, "The law cannot be enforced." It is not more difficult to "limit" or "control" "the number and habits of persons who congregate in a single tenement," than it is to suppress the general resurrection, but salvation from physical death? Does the brother deny the resurrection of the material body? He does not save us from dying, but he will save us from physical death, which otherwise would be eternal. But he says, 3. "Of the people of God it is said they are 'passed from death unto life,' and that there is, therefore, no condemnation to them that are in Christ." But he has before this said, "spiritual death is the penalty of sin, Adam and his posterity." Does the brother believe that the people of God, in this world, have passed from the threatened penalty of sin, into spiritual life? Is he indeed a Universalist? He seems for and against.

The brother's arguments 4, 5, 6 and 7 rest upon the singular mistake that if the death of the body was included in the death threatened Adam, and our mortality came by his death, the death of our bodies must make a part of the penalty threatened us for ours. We might as well suppose that the curse of thorns and thistles, and eating our bread in the sweat of our faces, is a part of the penalty upon us for our sins. There is a sense in which these, and mortality, are a penalty for Adam's sin, upon the first parents and their posterity, one and the same family. These evils thus "pass upon all men. There is also a sense in which, by the sin of Adam, the whole family is sinful, and need the atonement, even children. Aside from our actual sins, we have moral, mental, and physical imperfections, by which we fail to meet the claims of the law as first given to Adam. Hence all our services must be accepted through the atonement. Justifying faith must continue to keep this between us and the moral law. And the atonement secures the safety of children, up to the time of moral accounting!

It is said of the saints in heaven, "They are saved for ever, not fully. Their bodies are not yet saved from physical death. Then they are still enduring a part of the penalty, if physical death be a part." Answer. Physical death is not a part of the penalty threatened us for our sins. Our return to the dust, like thorns and thistles, and hard work, came by the "sentence provided," than did our moral and mental defects. But as these are from Adam's sin, and to us unavoidable, Christ stands between us and all harm from the penalty of the moral law, from our birth to the time of our moral accountability. And as the death of the body is by Adam's sin, so its resurrection from this is by Christ's redemption, without our agency. But a conformity of our resurrection bodies to the glorified body of Christ, is obtained by our having, in probation, a conformity of the spiritual soul to his moral likeness; 1 John iii. 2, 3; Phil. iii. 17-21.

Again, the brother's arguments 4, 5, 6 and 7 rest upon the singular mistake that if the death of the body was included in the death threatened Adam, and our mortality came by his death, the death of our bodies must make a part of the penalty threatened us for ours. We might as well suppose that the curse of thorns and thistles, and eating our bread in the sweat of our faces, is a part of the penalty upon us for our sins. There is a sense in which these, and mortality, are a penalty for Adam's sin, upon the first parents and their posterity, one and the same family. These evils thus "pass upon all men. There is also a sense in which, by the sin of Adam, the whole family is sinful, and need the atonement, even children. Aside from our actual sins, we have moral, mental, and physical imperfections, by which we fail to meet the claims of the law as first given to Adam. Hence all our services must be accepted through the atonement. Justifying faith must continue to keep this between us and the moral law. And the atonement secures the safety of children, up to the time of moral accounting!

W. M. T.

SEVENTY AND SEVENTEEN.

BY MRS. L. H. SIGOURNEY.

You look askance at wrinkles,
And frown at locks of gray;
And miss the tint on cheek and lip
That marks the years away.

Yet oft a sacred beauty
Within the heart is seen
That appears to seventy
More than to twenty.

One knows what's worth pursuing,
One doesn't care for wealth;
One knows what's worth possessing,
And the other has to learn.

And one can't afford experience
To be of service to her.

It's heritage of seventy,
But not of gay seventeen.

One deems that flattery is truth,
And Cœsar is not bold;
There's room for every grandeur;
Is rare among mankind;

And so it skills to save itself
From disappointments keen,
And one can't afford to wear
The garb of wisdom.

Call not Old Age unlovely,
Nor deem its precepts stale;
Nor say it lingers all too long;
With that, the world is pale;

It's burdened hidden treasure
Despite its furrowed mein,
And seventy years may happier be
Than were the gay seventeen.

If old Age wants longer
In vain forays and fed,
Gives them for every occasion,
And smilng hold your way;

Thee claus round the scene,
For seventy hath no vision here
As well as gay seventeen.

For Zion's Herald.

THE ETERNITY OF PUNISHMENT.

BY REV. GEORGE PRENTICE.

In order to show that the language of scripture, properly interpreted, sustains the dogma of the endless suffering of sinners in the world of retribution, it is needless to examine all the Bible on this subject. It is preferable to seize upon some specific passage, wherein, if anywhere, this doctrine is expressed, and show that this cannot possibly be made to present anything less than unending woes as the portion of the finally impenitent. By universal consent, the text, Matt. xxv. 46, "These shall go away into everlasting punishment," is regarded as the clearest and most unequivocal announcement of such a punishment for sin. That the doom here threatened is that of sinners in the final judgment, we do not pause to show; nor is it necessary to do so, since Dr. Wedow has swept away the mist of uncertainty from that subject in his comment upon this discourse of the Saviour. It will not be denied that the passage explicitly asserts that the ungodly shall depart into eternal punishment, the sole question that is raised being, whether the adjective *eternal* is to be taken in its strict sense, or in that looser one which it has been applied to the heavens, mountains, national statutes, the space of man's natural life, or to the duration of the world, as where it is said, "One generation passeth away and another generation cometh, but the earth abideth forever."

It is suggestive, if not decisive, of the force of the adjective here applied to future punishment, that the word is used to qualify the continuance of the felicity of the righteous. While this fact is, by itself, a conclusive proof of the endlessness of punishment for sin, it is clear that the Universalists' theory would be far easier of belief and defense, if scripture always takes terms more clearly finite in sense, to express the duration of penalty for sin. Consider the difference that it would make in this discussion, nay, in the theology of Christendom itself, did this passage merely assert that the wicked should depart into severe punishment, or, long punishment, or *agelong* punishment. This conceived difference between the case as it now stands and the case as it would stand, may properly enough express the gravity of the word *eternal* in this text, as it affects the position of Universalism.

2. We must consider the time when this language is to be uttered. In this same chapter it is said to be, "When the Son of Man shall come in the glory of his Father and of the holy angels with him—and shall sit upon the throne of his glory, and before him shall be gathered all nations." The same time is indicated when it is declared in 2 Thess. i. 9, 10, "that the wicked shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; when he shall come to be glorified in his saints," &c. Now it will throw some

light upon the matter in hand, to consider what the scriptures say respecting the changes which shall then take place in the condition of things. In the Epistle to the Hebrews, xii. 26, 27, Paul writes,

"But now hath he promised saying, yet once more, I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word yet once more signifieth the removing of those things which are shaken, as of things which are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain."

In 2 Peter iii. 10, we read, "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat; and the earth and the works that are therein shall be burned up."

Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved,

what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hastening unto the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be consumed with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?" Nevertheless we, according to the words of the Mayor, shall be burned up.

What is the great remedy for all this is,

"Go ahead, and compel the poor, miserable

wretches to live decently. Let them not sleep three in a bed longer. Control their "habits" by law.

Permit only a given number to dwell in the same apartment. Coerce them to eat, sleep, and dwell agreeably to decent sanitary laws. But then I was thinking what the rummellers and their sympathizers would say about "interfering with rights." When the question relates to our excellent Prohibition Law, a great cry is raised about "opposition," "meddling with other folks' business," "interfering with rights."

What will they say now that the Mayor pro-

poses to enter their houses and regulate their domestic affairs by law?

On second thought, we conclude that rummellers will say nothing, since the Mayor allows them to continue their infernal traffic unmolested. His new reform proposes to reach only the venders' wretched victims. If public charity can reach them, and alleviate the sorrows which his traffic has occasioned, he will not object, not he.

But seriously, does not the Mayor know that intoxicating drinks are the chief cause of the degradation to which he refers? Does he not know that intemperance has reduced this lower class to beggary, so that they are compelled to huddle together like pigs in a sty? All other causes put together do not create so much disease, and cause so many people to "live in filth" and occupy "ill-ventilated apartments" and even dwell in "damp and dark cellars," as intemperance. Every man knows this. The Mayor knows it; and every citizen of Boston knows it. How much more consistent, then, would it be to close the grog shops, and stop the illegal traffic in strong drink, or, at least, to make the noble attempt! It is not more difficult to "limit" or "control" "the number and habits of persons who congregate in a single tenement," than it is to suppress the general resurrection, but salvation from physical death?

Does the brother deny the resurrection of the material body? He does not save us from dying, but he will save us from physical death, which otherwise would be eternal. But he says, 3. "Of the people of God it is said they are 'passed from death unto life,' and that there is, therefore, no condemnation to them that are in Christ."

But he has before this said, "spiritual death is the penalty of sin, Adam and his posterity."

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Poetry.

MY AUTUMN WALK.

WILLIAM C. BRYANT.
On woodland paths, rich with autumn,
The amber-hued leaves lie;
I look on the beauty all around me,
And tears come into my eyes.

For the wind that sweeps the meadows
Blows out of the far Southwest,
Where our gallant men are fighting,
And the greatest dead are at rest.

The gales of battle sweep the purple-satin waves
In a burst from the land of battles,
A breath from the land of graves.

Full for the leaves are drooping
Before that wailing breath,
A faint in the field of battle,
Our bravest sons lie dead.

Beautiful over my pathway—
The forest spoils are shed;

They are spotting the grassy hillocks
With purple, and gold, and red.

Beautiful is the death-sleep
Of him who braves right

Brave and noble, honored and mourned

And perish for his country.

But who shall comfort the living,
The light of whose home is gone—

The bride that early widowed,
Lives broken-hearted on—

The mother whose sons are lying
On graves on a distant shore,

The maiden whom promised husband

Comes back from the war no more?

I look on the peaceful dwellings
Whose windows glimmer in sight,

With croft, and garden, and orchard,

That are bright with the light;

And I know that when our brothers

Will bring a bitter message

To those of having what's right,

Must fill the heart with gladness.

Auburn, Me., Jan. 11. J. C. PERRY.

ZION'S HERALD AND WESLEYAN JOURNAL, JANUARY 25, 1865.

Bro. Noyes professed religion and joined the church in 1857, in which he lived and died an exemplary and Christian young man. In his class meeting, when last at home, he left his testimony for his Saviour, pledging anew to meet his classmates in heaven. Possessing a fine voice and taste for music, a family sing was enjoyed the evening before he left home for the last time for the field of strife; he generally selecting the pieces, among the last of which was his favorite, "Who will care for mother now, etc." which aptly expressed his fond regard for his mother.

He bid adieu to friends at home on the 27th of March, and rejoined his regiment at Washington. On the 12th of May he wrote that his "regiment was under marching orders, probably for the front, and if he fell, to remember that he had done his duty with a willing heart." He left the forts at Washington on the 15th, and four days after he fell in battle, as above. A musket ball passed through his body, he surviving the shot about ten minutes. As he fell, he remarked to a wounded comrade lying near, "I am dying—going fast," and soon expired. Thus fell on our country's altar another of the noble sons of old Ipswich, bravely battling for God and the right. He sleeps the field, in an honored soldier's grave, rendered sacred by his own blood and his brother patriot martyrs, awaiting the early sound of the *rescue* that shall awake the just, loved and lamented by all who knew him. May the grace of God, with the memory of his noble heroic life, console and cheer a mourning mother, brothers, sisters and another, whose affiged love now sighs in deepest sorrow. W. C. HIGH.

LYING LIPS BRING SORROW.

"He that worthest death shall not stand in my sight"—Ps. cl. 7.

When you have been guilty of a fault,
For it will always stand on your late.

That something will reveal it.

And then, where'er the dead has been,

However great your trouble,

The faults, the sorrow, and the sin,

Will all be rendered double.

Even with all your sins, you told,

The sense of having done what's right,

Must fill the heart with gladness.

Auburn, Me., Jan. 11. J. C. PERRY.

Miscellany.

A PANTHER HUNT.

A British traveler in Brazil gives the following account of a panther hunt in the State of Bahia:

"I still revisited in my favorite pursuit, the Governor god-naturally resolved on gratifying me with the spectacle of a panther hunt. Accompanied by his sons, we rode out early in the morning to an extensive plain, in the centre of which was a jungle; into this the Vaqueiros had succeeded in driving; there were many animals in the plain, and the morning's sport.

"We took our station on an eminence which commanded a view of the centre field.

"The loud barking of the dogs, the wild cries of the hounds as they galloped round the skirts of the jungle, and the shouts of the drivers, formed an accompaniment to the scene.

"Arrived at the plain, the drivers, with their horses, awaited the approach of the animals with equal

suspense. They were mounted on the best ponies, and sprang forth to meet his enemies. The Vaqueiro nearest to the point from which he had issued, now advanced to the attack. He exhibited a beautiful sight, whirling in the air his lasso, and urging forward with the spear, the animal stood on its hind legs, and the most daring of the drivers, with his spear, struck it in the chest, and the animal fell, and was captured.

"The Vaqueiro then sprang upon the animal, and secured it, and then, with his spear, impaled it, and the animal fell, and was captured.

"The dogs were then loosed, and the drivers, with their spears, impaled the animal, and secured it, and then, with their spears, impaled it, and the animal fell, and was captured.

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